

CLAIMS:

1. A central control unit (4) for electronic apparatuses (1, 2, 3) having connections (5) for control lines to the electronic apparatuses (1, 2, 3) as well as at least one interface (6a, 6b) for coupling an external control apparatus (8, 9, 10) to a user interface, the central control unit (4) being adapted to couple the communication protocols for the connections (5) and for the interface (6a, 6b) so as to provide the possibility of controlling the electronic apparatuses by means of the at least one external control apparatus.

2. A central control unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the electronic apparatuses comprise a video recorder (2), a television, a CD/DVD player (1) and/or a satellite receiver (3).

3. A central control unit as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the connections are SCART connections (5) and/or chinch connections.

4. A central control unit as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the at least one interface (6a) is adapted for wireless communication with the control apparatus (8, 9, 10).

5. A central control unit as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the interface (6b) is adapted for connection to a network (12) to which at least one control apparatus (9, 10) is connected.

6. A central control unit as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the control apparatus is a mobile (8) or stationary (10) computer and/or a mobile phone (9).

7. A central control unit as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the control apparatus (8, 9, 10) comprises an electronic program guide for one of the electronic apparatuses.

8. A central control unit as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the unit, after being switched on, is adapted to determine the electronic apparatuses (8, 9, 10) connected to the connections (5), and their properties.

5

9. A central control unit as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it is integrated in one of the electronic apparatuses (8, 9, 10) and/or in a connection cable.

10. A network comprising electronic apparatuses (1, 2, 3) and control apparatuses (8, 9, 10), wherein the electronic apparatuses are coupled to the control apparatuses (8, 9, 10) via a central control unit (4) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9.

10